

Customer No. 24498
Attorney Docket No. PF980020
Office Action Date: January 10, 2008

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IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method for the distributed management of a catalogue of objects in a communication network comprising devices, the method comprising the step of:

- registering local objects present in a device in a local registry managed at the level of ~~this~~ the device;
- formulating, by a local object, a request for a list of objects, the request being transmitted to ~~the~~ a single local registry of the device hosting the local object;
- propagating the request through the local registry to distant registries;
- collecting ~~the~~ responses to the request by the distant registries and ~~the~~ a response of the local registry; and
- transmitting the responses collected to the local object having formulated the ~~initial~~ request.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 1, wherein a local registry comprises for each object registered therein an identifier of ~~this~~ the object in the network, ~~this~~ the identifier being unique for the communication network, as well as attributes of the object.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 2, wherein the identifier comprises an identifier of the device in which the object is present, ~~this~~ the device

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identifier being unique in the communication network, as well as of a local identifier unique to ~~this~~ the object at the level of the device.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 2, wherein a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising at least one selection criterion pertaining to an object attribute.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ a function of an object is an attribute stored by a the local registry in respect of the object.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of propagating a the request comprises the step of determining the devices connected to the network which themselves comprise a registry.

7. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 6, wherein the step of determining the devices comprises the determination of the types of the devices present in the network, the type of a device indicating whether it hosts a registry or whether it does not host one.

8. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to Claim 1, wherein a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising selection criteria for at least two lists of objects, as well as at least one operator for processing the lists.

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9. (Currently amended) ~~Device~~ A device in a communication network comprising:

- means for storing local objects;
- means for storing a local registry for containing a catalogue of objects local to the device;
- means for connecting the device to the communication network;
- means for propagating a request for a list of objects formulated by a local object to the local registries of other devices; and
- means for collecting the responses of the registries of the other devices and the a response of the local registry and for transmitting the responses to the object having formulated the request.

10. (Currently amended) ~~Device~~ The device according to Claim 9, further comprising means for determining the addresses of devices of the communication network comprising so-called distant registries.